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IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A seat belt device ~~comprising in which when a collision of a vehicle is foreknown,~~ an electric motor of a retractor which is driven for rotation in a normal direction to take up a webbing of a seat belt when a collision of a vehicle is predicted, and when an acceleration equal to or larger than a predetermined value is applied to the vehicle, the webbing is locked so that it cannot be drawn out of the retractor,

wherein when the collision of the vehicle has been avoided, and it is detected by systems having information regarding the acceleration of the vehicle that the acceleration of the vehicle has been reduced to be smaller than the predetermined value, the electric motor of the retractor is driven for rotation in the normal direction to cancel the locking, thereby loosening the webbing.

2. (New) A seat belt device in which when a collision of a vehicle is predicted, an electric motor is operated to drive a reel of a retractor for rotation in a take-up direction to take up a webbing of a seat belt, and when an acceleration equal to or larger than a predetermined value is applied to the vehicle, the webbing is locked so that it cannot be drawn out of the retractor,

wherein the retractor comprises an inertia gear mounted at a rotary shaft of the reel which is driven and rotated by said motor, and a locking lever having a ratchet claw which is capable of being engaged with ratchet teeth of the inertia gear to lock the reel non-rotatably, and

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wherein when an acceleration detected from a system having information regarding an acceleration of the vehicle becomes equal to or larger than the predetermined value, the ratchet claw of the locking lever is engaged with the ratchet teeth of the inertia gear, whereas when the acceleration of the vehicle has been reduced to be smaller than the predetermined value, the electric motor is operated to drive and rotate the reel in the take-up direction to rotate the inertia gear in an amount corresponding to at least one crest of the ratchet teeth to cancel the locking, thereby loosening the webbing.

3. (New) The seat belt device according to claim 2, wherein said locking lever is positioned below said inertia gear and when the ratchet claw of the locking lever is to be engaged with the ratchet teeth of the inertia gear, the locking lever is swung upwards, whereas when the ratchet claw is to be disengaged from the ratchet teeth, the locking lever is dropped downwardly by the force of gravity.